August 21, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Licensed Clinical Laboratories

FROM: Brian Looby, Chief

Healthcare Facility Regulation Division (HFRD)

SUBJECT: Availability of Deemed Status for Clinical Laboratories Accredited by

the College of American Pathologists

Effective August 21, 2012, the Department of Community Health acting through the HFRD, will exercise its discretion to allow clinical laboratories accredited by the College of American Pathologists (CAP) to submit their full accreditation reports as evidence of compliance with state licensure requirements for clinical laboratories for renewal of permits. The use of this discretion is authorized by O.C.G.A. Secs. 31-2-4(10)(A) and 31-22-8(a).

CAP-accredited laboratories desiring to participate in this deemed status-licensure option must submit their full accreditation reports to:

Diagnostic Services Unit, HFRD, DCH 2 Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 31.447, Atlanta, Ga. 30303-3159.

These accreditation reports will be kept on file and made available to the public upon request.

Of course, all CAP-accredited licensed clinical laboratories must continue to operate in compliance with the Rules and Regulations for Clinical Laboratories, Chapter 290-9-8. All CAP-accredited licensed laboratories would continue to be subject to unannounced licensure inspections determined necessary to investigate complaints alleging violations of applicable state licensure rules and federal CLIA surveys, as applicable. Additionally, CAP-accredited licensed laboratories that submit their current full accreditation reports would be eligible to take a reduction of \$125 from the annually recurring licensure fee of \$500.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact the manager of the Diagnostic Services Unit, Ms. Sheela Puthumana, by email at seputhumana@dch.ga.gov or phone at 404.657-5447.